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THE EUROPEAN HARVEST FIELD

Articles on Europe
Missionary Letters

Published monthly except July and August
by the
AMERICAN-EUROPEAN FELLOWSHIP
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VOLUME XVI

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I little see, I little know,
Yet can I fear no ill;
He who hath guided me till now
Will be my Leader still.

No burden yet was on me laid
Of trouble or of care,
But He my trembling step hath stayed,
And given me strength to bear.

And so my onward way I fare,
With happy heart and calm,
And mingle with my daily care
The music of my psalm.

—*Frederick L. Hosmer.*

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Published monthly (except July and August) by the American-European Fellowship for Christian Oneness and Evangelization

1213 North Franklin Street **Philadelphia, Penna.**

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We shall be thankful for names and addresses of Christian friends, to whom we may send sample copies of the magazine. We appreciate your sympathetic co-operation with us.

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DEVOTIONAL AND EDITORIAL

THE DEAF AND BLIND SERVANT OF GOD

By Rev. J. T. Zamrazil

> "*Who is blind, but my servant? or deaf, as my messenger that I sent? who is blind as he that is perfect, and blind as the Lord's servant? Seeing many things, but thou observest not; opening the ears, but he heareth not*" (*Isa. 42:19, 20*).

THIS passage has reference primarily to the pattern Servant of God, the coming Messiah or the Lord Christ, but it has a secondary application to those who would be as He was in this world or this life. I am sure God wants us to be like Himself.

One of the most powerful lessons the Lord ever taught me was this lesson of the blind and deaf servant, who, according to God, is "perfect." It is a real message from God's own heart to our spirits, of the importance in these days of a certain type of deafness and blindness. He that is perfect, according to God's statement, is blind, and he that is a servant of the most high God is deaf.

The problem with which we shall deal here is as old as the human race itself. The third chapter of Genesis tells us in unmistakable language that Eve faced this very thing, got into trouble, and got all the rest of us into trouble, because she wasn't blind and deaf. She looked on the fruit and saw that it was good and to be desired, and listened to the voice of the serpent, who said, "Ye shall not surely die." She failed, as you and I have so many times failed, to be blind and deaf to many things to which the Lord would have us be blind and deaf. This is a perennial problem and the lesson must be perennially learned.

There are five illustrations which show that the perfect servant of God is blind and deaf.

I. *It is a fatal thing to the servant of God or the child of God to look upon his difficulties in times of crisis.*

Turn to I Samuel 13:11, 12 and read carefully. Notice that Saul said, "*Because I saw* that the people were scattered, etc." As a result, he did the thing that God had expressly forbidden. Saul got into trouble. He suffered irreparable loss because he did not realize that there were certain things to which he should have been blind. See verse 14.

This was a time of crisis. Samuel had promised to come, but he had not as yet arrived. Then the devil got busy and began to talk to Saul. Saul *saw* three things: he saw that the people were scattered from him, that Samuel had not come within the days appointed, and that the Philistines had gathered themselves together at Michmash. Therefore, he did the thing that was absolutely forbidden.

Never were the times as critical as they are today, and never in the history of the human race has the devil sought to get God's servants to look upon difficulties in times of crisis as he does today, and it is a fatal thing to do. Remember, the Lord is never too late. The trouble was that Saul was impatient. God's time had not come, but because Saul was impatient he proceeded to do something he would never have dreamed of doing under ordinary circumstances. Thank God, He is always on time and, therefore, we can afford to be patient.

God often tests us, but He never puts a burden on us that is too heavy to bear. Saul did not believe that, but listened to the voice and the subtle suggestions of the enemy, and the devil stampeded him. The trouble with so many of us today is that the devil is stampeding us. We have let him do it by getting our eyes on the difficulties which face us in these critical times.

II. *It is an unworthy thing in a servant of God to listen to the threats of the enemy.*

Turn to I Kings 19:1-3, and notice the words, "*When he saw* that, he arose, and went for his life." "He arose and went for his life" because he did not turn a deaf ear to the messenger of Jezebel. He suffered from a terrible dose of "lively imagination." What did he see? What did his imagination concoct? He saw his poor old body beheaded. Had not Jezebel said, "So let the gods to to me, etc.?" Read verses 1 and 2 again.

The devil will try to bluff you, if he can. He is a liar from the beginning. God was looking after Elijah, but Elijah chose to see Satan's imagery and listen to Satan's voice. Most of us have often been in the same spiritual and mental condition as Elijah, simply because we listened to the subtle suggestions of the devil and saw, through a lively imagination, the things that the devil painted for us. It is difficult for us to realize that, just a few hours before, this same man had prayed down fire from heaven. But now he *saw* and *heard*, and proved himself an unworthy servant of the most high God. Lord, help us in these days not to give way to a lively imagination! Don't picture in your mind what the devil suggests, but listen to the still, small voice of the Spirit, saying, "Be still, and know that I am God."

III. *It is an unfair thing for us to look upon the seemingly favorable circumstances of others, with envy.*

We will now turn to Psalm 73:1-3. "*When I saw* the prosperity of the wicked." The devil is busy, and there is something on the inside of us that begins to rankle before we know it, when we behold the prosperity of the wicked and the poverty of the saints. But read verse 17: "Until I went into the sanctuary of God; then understood I their end." If the devil gets you to doubting the wisdom of God's way of doing things, don't talk to other people, but talk to God. David's feet had "well nigh slipped," when he got to seeing things and listening to damnable suggestions. The perfect servant is blind and deaf.

We are serving God and He has said that He will supply all our needs, according to His riches in glory by Christ Jesus, but you must listen to His voice rather than the suggestions of the enemy. It is not only dangerous, but it is unfair to do otherwise. It is a reflection upon God.

IV. *It is a dangerous thing to look upon our own unfavorable circumstances.*

Turn to Matthew 14:27-30. Peter walked on the water to go to Jesus, but "*when*

he saw the wind boisterous, he was afraid." That is the reason why some of us have been sinking beneath the waves of the storms of life. God is calling us in these days to walk on water, to live the life that the world says is impossible, but we will go under if we get our eyes on our unfavorable circumstances. The literal translation of the Hebrew for "Be not dismayed" in Isaiah 41:10 is "Look not around thee." The verse would then read, "Fear thou not; for I am with thee: look not around thee; for I am thy God," etc. When the Lord asks you in faith to step out on the water, He will carry you through, but "look not around thee." It is dangerous to look around. Keep your eyes upon Jesus!

V. *It is positively wrong in the child of God to judge anyone or anything after the seeing of the eyes and the hearing of the ears.*

Turn to Isaiah 11:3. This, also, is spoken of the pattern Servant and is a prophetic statement regarding the Messiah. "He shall not judge after the sight of his eyes, neither reprove after the hearing of his ears." That is the way our Lord is going to be in the day of judgment. "Man looketh on the outward appearance, but the Lord looketh on the heart." "Judge nothing before the time." We should be like the pattern Servant, like the man who is perfect, who is both blind and deaf. Many times we judge by the seeing of the eye and the hearing of the ear, and the results have been tragic to ourselves and others. Many have gone to their graves because of the careless judgment and the loose tongues of others. It is wrong. The Judge of all men is not going to judge after the seeing of the eyes or the hearing of the ears, and we should be like Him.

In Isaiah 33:15-17 we are told the conclusion of this matter. "He that *stoppeth his ears* from hearing of blood, and *shutteth his eyes* from seeing of evil; he shall dwell on high; his place of defence shall be the munitions of rocks: bread shall be given him; his waters shall be sure. Thine eyes shall see the King in His beauty." He who is blind and deaf will have God to take care of him and look after him, and the day will come when, unashamed, he will see the King in His beauty.

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First The Acorn, Then the Tree

By Fred Stettler
(Poland)

The Stettler Family

"God is with us" (Isaiah 8:10) With grateful hearts do we look back over the past year, as we think of the ministry we have had of spreading gospel literature. Surely, "no good thing will He withhold from them that walk uprightly" (Psa. 84:11).

About twelve years ago, while I was yet a babe in Christ, a zealous brother encouraged me to do something for the Lord. What could I do? Well, I was not to be in the dark very long about that. The same brother put about 60 tracts into my hands and told me to work for the Lord. I was scared to death! What should I do with 60 tracts? Had he given me two or three—but sixty! First, I read them myself, and then I was somewhat uneasy and burdened as to what I should do with them. To hand them back, I was ashamed, and to leave them unused in a drawer or bookcase I felt was a sin. Not very long after that, I stood on a much frequented street and passed out tracts, a thing I had never thought I could do because I was so bashful. I really trembled when a young lady refused my tracts and snapped out, "Do you think I am a heathen?" Through all the years since that beginning, I have kept up a lively interest in the printed page, and this interest has grown from year to year.

About two years ago, a man came to our door with a letter. He had written my name on it—we wondered where he had gotten it. In the letter he told of his unemployment and his miserable condition. We found that he had simply taken our name from the door. I asked him to come in. Hundreds had gotten their penny or two and were out on the street in a jiffy, but this one I invited in. I sat down and talked with him. He told his story. I asked him for credentials, and found that he had even a very good pastoral letter from his minister. Then I said: "Money I cannot give you, but I will give you something better, if you wish it. I shall give you some gospel books and literature, and you can go and sell them or leave them at the door as a freewill offering. You need not go begging any more."

Since that time, he has been an eager colporteur, carrying hundreds of pounds of literature across the country, into thousands of homes and to thousands of individuals. Lately, this man came to look me up again. He took 30 or 40 pounds of Christian literature on his back and left. The next morning he was at the door again. He showed me by sample copies that he had labored all night.

Most of the literature I give him has been read and given away by Christian people and some of the papers are as much as 40 years old. What do you think the man did? He had washed some of the soiled leaflets with soap and then ironed them out and cut the edges, so as to give them the appearance of newness and cleanliness. I must say that I never saw anything to equal this. He is a master in this "restoration work." Fearing that my stock might dwindle to nothing, he begged me to give him another large package of nearly 50

pounds of literature. He is doing a commendable work.

I should like to cite another instance. An elderly brother, who had been used of God in years past, often approached me, both in person and by letter, to tell me of his unhappiness. He is a man for whom God has done great wonders. For four years he had lain in a chair in a crippled condition, unable to help himself. He had to be taken care of like a baby. Many of the brethren prayed for him, and one day the Lord granted His request and healed him. He has been moving around ever since. However, he was greatly depressed, and the saying went abroad that when the devil came through that village, he would knock first on his door. He prayed and fasted and read his Bible, but still he could not enter into the joy of salvation. How should I counsel him? One day I said to him: "My dear brother, you are too much occupied with yourself and your feelings. Get occupied with the Lord Jesus Christ and lost souls for whom Christ died." What could he do? I presented him with the first supply of literature, and a decent suit of clothes which some years before had been given to me, and then I wished him Godspeed and said he should go and labor for the Lord. A man of God, the head of a mission, told me some years afterward that he was one of the best colporteurs in all Poland. He is a regularly supported colporteur now. It is now about six years since I started him out. Praise the Lord!

Where do we get all the literature? About five years ago I was in Switzerland for a short season. One evening I was traveling on a train. The man sitting opposite me took a good look at me and then began searching through his pockets. After a while, he found a number of tracts and handed me one of them. I read it through and found it to be a very excellent gospel tract. I shook hands with him and told him I was very happy to make his acquaintance and to know that he was distributing gospel literature. He, in turn, was very happy to find a missionary on the train. In a few minutes we were good friends. I asked him for more tracts, and he wanted to hand me three or four, but I surprised him by saying, "Why, I should like to have not three or four, but three or four thousand of these tracts." Since that time, this beloved brother has sent us *monthly* 1,000 German tracts, *for five successive years*. This year he encouraged us with an extra supply, in addition to these, of 6,000 excellent German gospel tracts. Then, he had printed through me, annually, 10,000 Berean booklets, in German, Polish, Russian, and last year even in Yiddish.

An appeal in our monthly magazine for sound and edifying evangelistic literature was answered by many dear friends in Switzerland, Germany, and England. Some ministers had their whole assemblies collect clean, excellent Christian tracts, pamphlets, booklets, and newer magazines. Upward of about 600 pounds of German, Polish, Russian, and Yiddish literature have been shipped to us and, with the exception of a small stock, have been distributed throughout this large country, which measures 600 to 700 miles, air line, from end to end.

The printing of literature has dwindled down to one-third of that printed last year. All we could print were 45,000 Polish gospel tracts, 5,000 Jewish gospel tracts, and 10,000 Berean booklets in the German, Polish, and Russian tongue. In addition to these, we have in print 100,000 Scripture texts. The monthly magazine, which has completed its fourth year, has been somewhat enlarged, so that we now print about 50 per cent more in it than formerly. It goes into 16 different countries of the world. Quite a number of foreign Christian magazines have reprinted regularly from our monthly. We are very glad for this far-reaching testimony. Russian refugees have informed us that they have even been successful in sending some into Russia proper.

How greatly this testimony is needed, incoming letters and personal talks with Christian workers constantly convince us. Only about a week ago, I met a Christian man who is in charge of a book store and also an active Christian worker. He showed me an address book in which he has the names of 1,600 men and women who at one time or another have attempted suicide. He has begged me repeatedly to have a tract printed specially for these people who are tired of living, and he promises me that he will get them into their hands. Another enthusiastic Christian worker sends an urgent request that I print a leaflet for those who do not believe anything, the godless. Still another begs me not only to print tracts for unbelievers, but writes how important it is that the young believers

be led into a deeper life in Christ. He says, "Show them how a believer is to live and walk with his fellow man and how he is obligated to the meeting to which he belongs." A very intelligent older Christian gentleman tried to convince me that we should give a fitting message to the deplorable ladies (?) who take charge of all the important street corners between 11:00 P. M. and 2:00 A. M. One of these, who had gotten hold of one of our tracts, said: "If I could only find work and start a decent life over again!"

What a big tree has grown from a humble beginning! There is surely reason for us to praise the Lord! How thankful we are that many of you have held us up in prayer and remember us regularly before the Throne of God. How thankful and happy we have been, too, for the sacrificial gifts of God's saints. Indeed, He has proved to be "a strength to the poor, a strength to the needy in his distress, and a refuge" from every storm!

We have done quite a lot of traveling, too, in this big land of ours. According to careful notes in my note-book, I have visited, within the past year, 31 different cities, towns, and villages where I stayed for some days or held series of meetings of a week or more. Some places I was able to visit for the first time, others I had not visited for four or five years, and in some I have been laboring, more or less, for several years. We held children's meetings, young people's meetings, women's meetings, and conferences. In some we evangelized or gave Bible teaching, while in others we were called upon to settle doctrinal or other differences in closed church meetings. In many places we had daily prayer meetings, and we labored all day and often until the early hours of the morning.

Our duties, however, were not only those connected with public church gatherings. Many months have passed that we have not had a day or a night alone. Our home was a place of hospitality. Sometimes we did not find room enough for all to sleep. We often had to have some folks sleep elsewhere, and sometimes we had to offer them our chairs for a place of rest during the night. Helpless, jobless, and often homeless they came to us, seeking both spiritual and material aid. We acknowledge, with gratitude toward the Lord, that we found many a position for girls who sought a refuge in our home. Mrs. Stettler, as president of a Ladies' Aid Society, has had her hands full, too, with a family of five, as well as guests. Often the number of heads at the table would pass the first dozen. We were sorry not to be able to satisfy all the desires of our visitors, especially when they came to ask us, as a young man did recently, to find a suitable helpmeet for him. He, of course, is the poorest fellow on earth, and I suppose would have to borrow a wedding suit for the ceremony, but the lady, of course, ought to have something, and the more the better.

In closing this letter, we would like to express our sincere thanks to all our friends who have supported us by their intercession and by their contributions, which have so often moved us to increased devotion and thanksgiving toward God. May we ask for your continued prayer interest, so that many more might come to a knowledge of Him, *'whom to know is life eternal."*

AN OUTSTANDING book and one much needed in these times is Dr. Gaebelein's "Conflict of the Ages," now in sixth edition. Helpful for your reading and for passing on to your friends. $1.00 postpaid. Order from Fellowship Office.

JOAN COSTI AND FAMILY

SUFFERING FOR CHRIST

BY JOAN COSTI
(Roumania)

AT THE close of another year, I feel more than ever before how good the Lord has been to us. My family and I—we are nine of us—are so grateful to you, dear friends, for your prayers and material help during the past year. We have had much joy in His service.

A small group of Hungarian believers has been meeting in a neighboring village, and I have had much blessing in ministering the Word to them, although I cannot speak Hungarian but have to talk through an interpreter. I have been doing a great deal of visitation work, walking many miles. What a help a bicycle would be to me! Among the Jews, also, I have had the privilege of testifying, as well as among Roumanians and Ruthenians.

In most cases, the gospel is gratefully received. There is much opposition on the part of the clergy, however, and they keep nagging at the rural police, who then frequently arrest the believers and keep them imprisoned for several days, without any cause, and then release them, after much threatening. The Lord is able, however, and His work is going forward steadily, in spite of all persecution and hindrances.

I am so thankful to the Lord for giving my family and myself good health this past year, so that we have not had to suffer on account of illness. There is so much to be done here, so many villages where the gospel has never been preached, that we have to be busy continually. Please pray much for us, for we feel so weak as we face the big task before us. Our only help is in Him, and we praise Him that He has helped us up to the present time and has given us His assurance that He will not fail us in the future. We greet you in His Name.

PRAYER REQUESTED

BY D. PRYSTUPA
(Poland)

I RECENTLY moved to a new place, the town of Kamien Kaszyrski. Before the Great War, it was only a little village, but now it is a large, rapidly growing town. Ten years ago, the Word of God was preached here by evangelists, who baptized the new converts and then went away and left them. The result was that many of them followed teachers of false doctrines, as there was no one to help them to understand the Bible.

In this town there is a chapel, the building of which is not finished. The town is a center for 26 villages, and the total number of Christians is about 300. In all this territory, there are only three chapels and the spiritual standing of the believers is very low. There is need here for the light of Christ. The field is very difficult, and much wisdom is needed if anything is to be accomplished. Certainly, I can do nothing in my own strength, but the power of the Holy Ghost and the love of Christ are able to bring the light into this dark corner. I humbly ask all of the Lord's children to pray for me that I may be given the necessary wisdom and strength.

THE INDWELLING WORD

As the Word dwells in us, so we may dwell in the Word. If the teaching is precious to us, we may exhibit to the world that we have breathed its spirit and come to find our very life in its atmosphere. Received in meekness, and permitted to operate in every department of life, it supplies Divine wisdom and is the secret of all praiseful service.

The one so possessed is a temple of the Holy Ghost; the seed of life is within, and in due time it will bring forth fruit to the praise of God.

—*The Christian.*

"Out of the Mouths of Babes"

By Charles Lukesh (Czeckoslovakia)

WE HAVE much to praise the Lord for as we look back over the past year, especially for His sustaining grace, which enabled us to continue against the tremendous odds by which Satan sought to hinder the work. We feel the strain of the hellish endeavor to break up or thwart the propagation of the message of eternal life. Even in our bodies did the enemy attack seriously, and it seemed as though our extension work would be greatly handicapped by the strain-weakened heart of Mrs. Lukesh, which hindered her from traveling on the bicycle as she had so bravely done hitherto. The general world situation is being felt here, also, and that puts upon our hearts the burden to give out the gospel message while there is time.

Thus, we are glad for the help granted us in the use of a second-hand car, which we hope will help us to enlarge our activity, though the enemy tries to hinder us. We are endeavoring to make the best use of it by placing on it four posters, which arouse attention everywhere. Several times people have been noticed copying these Bible verses. Of course, some jeer at them, but they help others. Recently, we were surrounded by a crowd of young people, and some giggling girls read the verses aloud, which resulted in those standing behind getting the message also. How it proves Paul's experience in Philippians 1:18.

The dense ignorance of the gospel message is illustrated by the action of a young fellow who, glancing upon the verse of invitation, "Come unto me," promptly stepped forward, saying that he wanted to be the first one to accept the help offered. When he heard, however, that it meant the kingdom of God first, he slunk away downcast. For temporal benefits, the people do not need an urgent invitation, but for the spiritual—most of them are counterparts of the rich young man.

We have a variety of experiences, one of the most touching being when we take our smallest missionaries along. They are twins, a boy and a girl, a little over three years old. Their sweet songs and quoting of Bible verses are marvels to most of the hearers, and we pray that some of the old sinners may be moved by the praises from the mouths of babes. They have to take their stand even at home, their father not being converted and often boisterously blasphemous. Pray that their little hearts may be saved from the contamination of what they must hear and see.

On a recent trip, we took these twins with us, with their mother, who is a Christian. The first place we stopped was with a lady who was a live Christian years ago, in a distant town, but after marriage she had cooled down until now she has merely the remembrance of what she once was. Her children are not naughty, but the songs and recitations of the twins showed her what hers might have been had she remained true to the Lord and led the little ones to Him. The twins sing different songs, some with motions, and repeat the 23rd Psalm and John 3:16. In the next town they again sang and recited, and also later, when we passed the place where their grandmother lives. The old lady had not yet seen them and the sincere message of the children spoke to her heart.

While passing through the various villages, they went with us to distribute tracts, though the dogs

Starting on a Gospel Trip

greatly frightened them. They liked to give out the tracts themselves, and when we dropped them from the car while driving along they were quite concerned until they saw that the tracts were picked up. Their little feet got tired, indeed, in our much walking through the villages. The boy was afraid to stay alone in the auto, but the girl bravely stayed in and "watched" the car.

At the last place visited in the evening, the people were just returning from the fields and were attracted by the singing, coming as it did from the house in which we were visiting. Quite a congregation gathered outside, and when one lot was invited into the yard, others gathered outside. Thus, the little ones had to repeat their songs and verses several times and the people were loath to go away. Considering that most of them were quite inimical to us and the gospel, we trust that by what they saw and heard they will be more willing and open to receive the Word.

After leaving this village, we had another call to make at a nearby farm, where their aunt lives, and once more they had to go through a part of their recitations. No wonder that, after settling for the homeward trip, they promptly went to sleep and slept until we reached home.

These little twins are different from other children in that they show a real heart response. The mother often tells us how they pray to God for forgiveness and also ask pardon of the one offended, whenever they do something naughty, and how different they are afterward. When Johnny was naughty one afternoon, he was punished and prayed with but was not pressed to ask my wife's forgiveness because she was busy with the other children. When sitting down to supper, however, he remembered that he had not asked her pardon. Taking his little sister by the hand, he said, "Come with me. I must ask Mrs. Lukesh to forgive me." (The family live in the same house, but on another floor.) When the little girl, Tabita, was asked whether her heart is clean or dirty, she answered promptly, "Clean." We asked, "Who made it clean?" She said, "The Lord Jesus." After being disobedient, she asked her parents' pardon, but yet she remained on her knees for a long time. When asked what more she wanted, she at once said, "Lord Jesus, give me a clean heart." At another time, when apparently being tempted, she exclaimed, "Satan, go away! I want to obey."

When we go on a trip, they are very much interested, and when the mother kneels to pray for us during the day, they kneel beside her and pray, also. The girl, especially, mentions by name all those who have gone with us on the trip. What a joy it would be if the older ones would yield just as readily to the instructions in the Word! Often, however, it is just the opposite. We recently passed through a German village in a district which, in the times of John Huss, was populated with true believers. However, in the persecution that followed, they were either killed or exiled if they would not renounce their saving faith, and the country was populated with strange people. These are kept in a fanatical state of mind and are ready to carry out their threats of actual violence. That is what they consider faithful Christianity, while we are counted as renegades, unbelievers, and worse than heathen.

We praise the Lord that, by the use of the car, we are enabled to do some otherwise impossible tasks. For instance, after having been busy until 10:00 P. M. on Sunday, we were able to visit a family, living quite a distance away, on Monday morning before 5:00 o'clock. The believing sister there was ill, and the "undecided" husband had to be at work by 6:00 o'clock, quite a distance away. Thus, they had opportunity even at that early hour to hear the Word. Last Monday was rainy and we were hindered from freely distributing tracts, but we were able to make several visits, giving the Word and testifying in places which we could never have reached without the car.

We praise the Lord for those who have been saved, and we thank you for your faithfulness in praying with us for more souls.

"Indeed I do care to renew my subscription for another year to your wonderful missionary magazine, and I only wish I could send it to all my friends. Oh, how I wish I had a million dollars to divide among the missionaries in foreign lands, and be able to give to the missionary magazines, that they may be able to carry on their part of the work, enlightening and reviving interest in the work being done by the missionaries sent to foreign lands. I am praying every day that you may be able to carry on till the very last minute."

"Redeeming The Time"

By Philip Manetz (Poland)

As we present the following report from Mr. Manetz, we cannot help magnifying the grace of God, which takes men in their sin and need and transforms them into chosen vessels and witnesses. When we realize that Mr. Manetz was saved in Sing Sing Prison, we give praise to Him for keeping him and now using him near the Soviet border in gospel work. We shall be glad to send an attractive booklet, entitled "Out of the Depths," which will give the story Mr. Manetz's conversion, to any who request it.

AND thou shalt remember all the way which the Lord thy God led thee. Beware that thou forget not the Lord thy God, in not keeping His commandments, and His judgments, and His statutes, which I command thee this day" (Deut. 8:2, 11).

As we look back at the year just closed, our hearts bow with gratitude and praise to God for all His lovingkindness and goodness to us. As we review the year, we see God's guiding hand, His protecting power, and His sustaining grace. "Bless the Lord, O my soul: and all that is within me, bless His holy Name. Bless the Lord, O my soul, and forget not all His benefits" (Psa. 103:1, 2).

Philip Manetz

By God's grace, we have been able to witness of His redeeming love, in spite of many hindrances and the opposition of Satan. The gospel has been preached in many villages, towns, and suburbs; Gospels, tracts, books, and other spiritual literature have been faithfully and prayerfully distributed, and some sinners have been saved by the power of the gospel and have united with the church. Praise God! We regret every failure, every word or deed that has brought dishonor upon our Lord and grief to the blessed Holy Spirit. "God is faithful, by whom ye were called unto the fellowship of His Son, Jesus Christ our Lord" (1 Cor. 1:9).

We thank God for every member of the body of Christ, redeemed by His precious Blood. We thank Him for the blessed gift of the Holy Spirit and for His indwelling and abiding presence. Read Eph. 1: 13-14; 2 Cor. 1:21, 22; Gal. 3:13, 14, 26 and 4:6; Rom. 8:15, 16; 1 John 3: 24; 1 Cor. 6:19, 20; Eph. 4:30. Please do not pass over these precious verses, particularly those who are in doubt concerning the indwelling presence of the blessed Holy Spirit. Every child of God ought to thank God always for the precious gift of the Holy Spirit, and you will soon be conscious of His presence and power. Of course, it is the privilege of every Christian to seek the fulness of the Holy Spirit (Eph. 5:16-18).

We thank you for your hearty interest in the Lord's work in Poland, for your cooperation in prayer, for your gifts, and for every word and deed of kindness. May all this be done for the sole purpose of glorifying His blessed Name, for "every man's work shall be made manifest: for the day shall declare it, because it shall be revealed by fire; and the fire shall try every man's work of what sort it is. If any man's work abide which he hath built thereupon, he shall receive a reward" (1 Cor. 3:13, 14). Read 2 Cor. 5:10; Heb. 6:10; Rev. 22:12.

In the verses above, God first calls our attention

to the past. We should be always mindful of His love. "Remember . . . forget not"—the bondage of Egypt, Calvary's Cross, and all that is involved in the Cross. Then, in the present—"Study to shew thyself approved unto God, a workman that needeth not to be ashamed, rightly dividing the word of truth . . . I must work the works of Him that sent me while it is day: the night cometh, when no man can work . . . I beseech you, therefore, brethren, by the mercies of God, that ye present your bodies a living sacrifice, holy, acceptable unto God, which is your reasonable service . . . Casting all your care upon Him; for He careth for you . . . Be sober, be vigilant: your adversary, the devil, as a roaring lion, walketh about, seeking whom he may devour." And in the future tense—"Brethren, I count not myself to have apprehended: but this one thing I do, forgetting those things which are behind, and reaching forth unto those things which are before, I press toward the mark for the prize of the high calling of God in Christ Jesus . . . But the end of all things is at hand: be ye therefore sober, and watch unto prayer . . . For yet a little while, and He that shall come will come, and will not tarry . . . And everyone that hath this hope in Him purifieth himself, even as He is pure."

I want to dwell a little on the present tense, for it is most important. The past is gone forever, though God reminds us of the past—"Remember . . . forget not." We are not to forget the redemptive work of God, but, as far as our time is concerned, it is gone forever. All the precious years, months, weeks, days, hours, etc., which we have wasted, cannot be redeemed. We can only redeem the present time (Ephesians 5:16-18). O Lord, we regret the past, but we thank Thee for the opportunity of redeeming the present.

I want to relate two experiences that I had during the past year. God permitted me to witness the death of two young women, both of them married and well situated, but both left the same testimony, *a deep regret because of wasted time.*

About a year ago I was in Warsaw to attend to matters pertaining to my documents. I was stopping in the Christian orphanage there and met a Christian lady whom I had met before. She had come there for a little rest, but had become worse and was confined to her bed. She called for me to come in to see her. I knew that she was a professing Christian but that her life was not yielded to God, so I said, "My dear sister, how is your relationship with God? Your name may be on the church record, but are you sure that your sins are forgiven?" She had no assurance whatsoever. Her eyes filled with tears as she said, "I have sinned very, very much against God." Of course, I told her the old, old story of the sinner's Saviour, the only hope of mankind. I knelt by her bed and we prayed together. She confessed her sin to God.

Two days later, I was praying in my room when I felt the urge of the Holy Spirit to go to see this lady. I immediately went to her room and asked, "How are you feeling this evening?" She replied, "I feel very badly." Without further question, I said, "Perhaps you will never see tomorrow—are you sure that your sins are forgiven?" She replied, "I am not sure." Meantime, a maid came in and asked her what she would like to have for supper. She ordered toast and tea. I proceeded: "Why do you doubt? Won't you trust in the precious Blood of Christ, which was shed for you? Do not listen to the devil, that deceiver. If you confess to God and believe in Christ and His atoning Blood, you will receive forgiveness of your sins (1 John 1:9) and you will never appear before the great white throne in the day of judgment (John 5:24). If you don't live for God, however, you lose your reward. Salvation is by faith (John 3:16; Eph. 2:8, 9) but the reward is for works (Rev. 22:12)." Then I saw that she understood. She took a deep breath and said, "If God will only restore my health, I will serve Him." These were her last words. She laid her hand on her forehead and began to breathe deeply. I knelt by her bed and prayed: "Oh, gracious Father, in the Name of the Lord Jesus Christ, restore her health, if it please Thee. Thy holy will be done." I thought she had fallen asleep, but again she breathed deeply, then her color changed, and in about ten minutes she was in eternity. Oh, what a scene and what a lesson! I shall never forget it as long as God permits me to live. At the last moment of her life, she wanted to serve the Lord—but it was too late.

The second incident occurred more recently. The case was that of a beautiful young lady, well to do, married, the mother of a four-year-old boy. She was the only daughter in her family and was plan-

ning to go to America to rejoin her parents. She lacked for nothing, so far as material comforts were concerned. She lived about six miles from my home village. She was a Greek Orthodox by profession, but was a secret believer. We occasionally held gospel meetings in her village and she was a regular attendant, taking part in the singing of the gospel hymns and listening eagerly to the Word of God. She bought a New Testament and read it at home.

On December 6th, she took seriously ill. Her relatives urged her to call the priest immediately that she might confess her sins and partake of the sacrament. But she utterly refused to see the priest, saying, "I do not care to see the priest. He is a sinner himself—how can he forgive my sins? My hope is in Christ alone." Then she sent for me, and oh, how glad I was to respond to the call! I took with me another brother in Christ. As we knelt in prayer at her bedside, her eyes were filled with tears of joy and fellowship. I began to ask her some questions, and she seemed to know every Scripture verse that I mentioned. I said, "What assurance do you have that your sins are forgiven? You have not confessed your sins to the priest, you have not partaken of the sacrament, and you are not baptized." She replied, "My faith is solely in Christ and His Word." Then I related the story of the thief on the cross, and I said to her, "What do you think about the thief on the cross as to his salvation?" She immediately understood and replied, "Oh, I know, I know—his salvation depended wholly upon Christ." Her answers to my questions satisfied me, and I said to her: "My dear sister, how much you have missed by not confessing Christ openly!" She expressed her regret for this, acknowledging that she had been ashamed to confess Christ publicly. Her eyes filled with tears and this is what she said: "Oh, if God will only restore my health, I will confess Him openly and serve Him with all my heart." Four days after this testimony, however, she went to be with the Lord.

There is a great contrast in the faith of these two precious souls, but they both left a similar testimony. Both of them were sorry for the time they had lost; both of them, at the last moment, wished to serve God, but, alas, it was too late! Oh, what a lesson this should be to every Christian! That is why the blessed Holy Spirit warns us all through the Scriptures: "Remember . . . forget not . . . take heed . . . be sober . . . watch . . . be not unwise . . . redeeming the time, because the days are evil . . . I must work the works of Him that sent me, while it is day: the night cometh, when no man can work."

The Holy Scriptures were "written for our learning, that we through patience and comfort of the Scriptures might have hope" (Rom. 15:4). Therefore, by seeing our own mistakes and the mistakes of others, we launch out into the new year of 1935 with renewed courage and strength and with great expectation from our great God.

Prayer Requests

Please continue to pray for God's blessing upon the gospel meetings, the distribution of Gospels, tracts, books, and spiritual literature.

Pray for our Sunday School. The boy in our Sunday School whom I mentioned before, the one who memorized over 250 Scripture verses, has, in addition to that, already memorized the Epistle to the Ephesians. Praise God for this boy's love for the Word of God!

Pray for me in the new field of Stolpce, where I expect to spend the remainder of the winter. The Lord willing, I plan to take lessons in the Polish grammar. I already have the foundation of the Polish grammar, but not enough to preach the blessed gospel in the Polish language. Remember this request especially before the Lord in prayer.

Satan is bitterly opposing and hindering the Lord's work here. Please plead the precious Blood of Christ in behalf of the Lord's work in Poland.

Let us continue unitedly, faithfully, perseveringly, to pray for a mighty revival in the church of God in Poland and the world over. God will answer prayer, most assuredly, as we depend solely upon the faithfulness of His own eternal, infallible Word. "For they shall not be ashamed that wait for me."

Tell me not merely what a man says and professes. Tell me rather what his heart is, and I will tell you what he is.—*Bishop J. C. Ryle.*

Our salvation is fastened with God's own hand and Christ's own strength to the strong stake of God's unchanging nature.—*Samuel Rutherford.*

Macedonian Call in Carpathian Russia

By John Kovalchuk

NOT long ago, I again visited our believers living in a distant region of Carpathian Russia, around the city of Mukachevo, and spent one week with them, holding meetings and visiting in the homes. They always ask us to come to them more frequently than we do. Last summer they insisted that we should come there and stay with them for at least a month or two. We thought we would try to do it, but when summer came, with its many duties and responsibilities in our great province here around Bustino, such as holding regular and special meetings in different places, taking care of the sick and of starving Christians, etc., we found that the time slipped away very rapidly.

There is a group of about eighteen Carpatho-Russian believers in the town of Klachanovo, about five miles from the large city of Mukachevo. This town is surrounded by many other Carpatho-Russian towns and villages. It is a wonderful field in which to sow the true gospel seed, but there are no true laborers. The Russellites and others like them have tried to do their pernicious work, but without success, and the field is still unoccupied. The people are living in darkness, waiting for a true gospel light. An aged brother, who was once in the U. S. A. and heard the gospel there and who is now deacon of this small Carpatho-Russian church, took me out on a hill and pointed with his finger to the many nearby towns and villages, telling me that all these towns are inhabited by Carpatho-Russians only. These people have begged them many times to come and preach the gospel to them, but they could not respond to their call, for they themselves needed to be instructed and strengthened. They need a steady worker among them to teach them and their children. The old man told me that they had been waiting a long time for my coming and were about to write me that if the American Christians had sent me to work in Carpathian Russia, they also were a part of Carpathian Russia and could not see why I should give all my time to one part and not come to help them. They told me of their weaknesses and shortcomings and said they could see no hope for themselves until a steady worker would be sent to them to lead and teach them. I spent a whole week with them, holding meetings and visiting in their homes, trying to help them as much as I could. They, indeed, need a steady worker there. We are praying that the Lord will send someone here to this place, where the work has already been begun.

After spending a week with them, I had to go, promising that I would come back, the Lord willing, for Christmas holiday, according to the Roman Catholic calendar, for they keep this holiday according to that calendar, while in our part of the country our people keep it according to the Greek Orthodox calendar, which is two weeks later. Keeping two Christmas holidays gives us a good opportunity to cover more territory and hold more meetings.

After I had returned to Bustino and had had a little rest, I went on the next Saturday morning to Neresnice to visit our people there and to hold regular services. There is a poor family of eleven there, who come to our meetings and love the Lord. The father of the family is suffering from asthma and is very weak, not always being able to attend the meetings. He has been worse this fall and has not been able to come to services for some time. He asked me to come to visit him and talk with him, for he thought he would not live very long. One of their daughters, a girl of twenty, has been a sufferer from heart disease for several years. She is always anxious to hear about Jesus and begs us to pray for her whenever we go to visit them. She loves her Saviour very much.

I visited this family that day and spent a couple of hours with them, reading to them from the Word of God and telling them of God's love for man and how He suffered for us, etc. Everybody listened very attentively, especially Maryjka, the sick girl, who was lying on her bed. She watched me with large, shining eyes, and seemed to be swallowing every word. Then we prayed together. When I left them, shaking hands with all of them, Maryjka caught my hand in both of hers and,

wishing to express her most hearty thanks, she kissed it. They were all very thankful for my visit. I then went to visit in other homes, and at night we had a service.

The next day, believers and friends came from other towns and villages for Sunday morning service in Neresnice and we had a fine meeting. During this service, a messenger came from Teresova, a town about 13 miles from Neresnice, saying that a very sick lady there was dying and wished to see me and talk with me before she died. So, after the service, we went to that town. It was very hard to get there, as the roads were extremely muddy, due to the heavy rains. November days are short and it was dark by the time we reached the place. The sick lady was suffering from pneumonia. She felt very badly and wished to talk with me about her soul's salvation. She had been attending our meetings for some time and her daughter is a member of our church. There had been certain sins which had held her from giving herself wholly to the Lord, and now she wished to confess them to the Lord and ask His forgiveness. Friends and neighbors were there and we also had a good talk with them, reading and singing and praying together. The Lord blessed us richly that night.

I went to bed very late, but the next day I got up about 5:00 o'clock, while it was still dark, for I had to walk about fifteen miles to get my train at 8:45. It was raining and the road was very muddy. I reached home about 12:00 o'clock, wet and tired. Mrs. Kovalchuk told me of a good meeting they had had in Bustino. There had been visitors from several places around Bustino, and they had invited us to go to different places to hold meetings for them. The field is white and ready for harvest.

REPORT FROM ALBANIA

By Edwin E. Jacques

NOT long ago we came here to Elbasan, leaving the Kortcha work to Mr. and Mrs. Kennedy and Mr. Cheno. This city is the center of Mohammedanism. We have found it to be much more primitive than Kortcha. Here we have rented a house among the people and will complete our language study. Meanwhile, we find much joy in witnessing for Christ among visitors and shopkeepers. The natural curiosity of the people—their

Mr. and Mrs. Jacques and Eddie

continual use of who, why, what, when, and where—makes it the most natural thing in the world to tell them of what God in love has done for us. Practically, no gospel work has been done here since Paul's visit. Such a spiritually neglected people demand your prayers. Ask the blessing of God on each conversation and each tract.

We are thankful this year-end for fine health; for little Eddie, who has brought such gladness to us, and who is expert in breaking down barriers of aloofness and reserve; for the unfailing supply of bread at every "Cherith;" for you and all that your friendship has meant to us this year; for occasional letters; for Philippians 4:6, 7.

We wish you every blessing of the season. If wishes only come true, this will be your most happy New Year, for, as you see, this time there are THREE of us who wish it!

The Glories of Christ

What a wonderful Saviour the Lord Jesus Christ is! Each new glimpse we get of His glory seems to be brighter and better than anything we have ever seen before.

When we hear of Him as the Prophet, we are tempted to exclaim, "Surely this is His most wonderful office! Surely there can be nothing in Christ that is more glorious than revealing God the Father!"

When we speak of Him as the Priest, we cry, "God forbid that I should glory, save in the Cross of the Lord Jesus Christ."

When we see Him as our King, we fall in adoration at His feet, and crown Him Lord of all.

—*Rev. G. H. C. MacGregor.*

BAPTISMS AND TRIALS

By G. Neamtu

(Roumania)

I SEND you sincere Christian love and greetings at the beginning of the new year. The past year has been a very fruitful one, but also one of much persecution and many hindrances. *I have been arrested a number of times and also imprisoned, but precious souls have been won for the Lord and several new assemblies started in my district.*

I visit thirty assemblies regularly in this district, and have visited about forty other villages where no assemblies have yet been started. The Lord has blessed, and I have found much hunger for the Word. We have had the privilege of baptizing thirteen, with large crowds in attendance and, for the first time, with no interruptions or persecution. I traveled 3,000 miles on my bicycle, besides making many journeys on foot. My dear wife and I have also been active in distributing tracts and holding conversations with many Jews. Among them, too, there seems to be a hunger for the truth.

We thank you from the bottom of our hearts that you are making it possible for us to work in the Lord's vineyard. The need is great and there are so few laborers in Roumania. Please pray for us, that we may be used of Him, among Jews and Gentiles, that He may receive glory thereby.

G. Neamtu and Hebrew-Christian Wife

Personal contact with God Himself is the only secret of power.—*A. Murray.*

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MOHAMMEDANS BECOMING INTERESTED

By C. Marvakoff

(Bulgaria)

(Translated from German)

"FINALLY, my brethren, rejoice in the Lord. To write the same things to you, to me indeed is not grievous, but for you it is safe." During the past two months, I have had the same work, for the same Lord Jesus Christ, and with the same Word have sought to invite these people to repent and come to Jesus. But it is a hard territory in which to work, and the spirit of this present time is corrupt, determined to ruin all people. I am not writing this to complain, for the fruit of our past labor is sprouting just as surely as the grass comes up in the spring. I wrote to you several years ago about the people quietly shaking their heads. Now these same people are saying, "What you told us in the past is true, and we need it." This in itself is a brief testimony that something is being accomplished.

Several of the men are anxious to talk with me about the Word of God and concerning problems of life. They understand very well that they should be turning to Christ for salvation, but Satan, through worldly pleasure, is holding them back. They are very friendly to me, but real conversion has not yet come. Several of the men are acknowledging that our way, that is, the gospel way, is the path to salvation and glory, but they are not following in that way. By the grace of God, I continue to tell them that without Jesus Christ there is no forgiveness of sin and no salvation.

About a year ago, I was talking in one of the villages about the prodigal son, and I showed them the picture of the prodigal feeding the swine. A few days ago, a Pomak young man came to me, saying: "Do you remember what you said and what you showed us a year ago in our village? You told us of the prodigal son and showed the picture of him feeding the swine. That was for us, for if we are not turning to the truth, we are only feeding the swine." Remarks like these are often made, and they are encouraging, for they show that my work has not been in vain.

We hold our meetings regularly and they are well attended, with some new people coming. We are not hindered from holding religious meetings. There are several small villages that have no coffee house and it is rather hard to have the men come together. To overcome this problem, I find it necessary to do something to get the men together. Sometimes I have a musical entertainment of gospel hymns, using a graphophone. I am unable, however, to do anything for the women, as they will not talk to strange men. We ought to have a woman worker for them.

I take this opportunity of sending you hearty greetings for another year, wishing all of you God's very best.

RESPONSE OF HUNGARIAN CHILDREN

By Eugene Nagy

GLANCING back upon the year that has just closed, I rejoice, giving thanks to the Lord for His continued grace and help in my work here as your missionary. I had trials, of course, but the Lord helped me through them all. Bless His holy Name!

The gospel meeting held last Monday was a real blessing to all. The large room was filled to capacity. Many people who had come a long distance had brought their heavy Bibles with them. The struggle against the powers of darkness is a hard one, but in the strength of the Lord I am making progress,

The appendix to my booklet is now ready for the printer and will go to the press as soon as I have available funds for that purpose. When this is done, we will proceed with the establishment of other mission centers.

The work among the young men of the local Y. M. C. A. and the Bible class is also making headway. I must admit, however, that the work is hard, because the young people are on rather a low level, spiritually. A great deal more promising is my work among the children. Oh, how you would rejoice to see their faces light up when the gospel truth is presented to them through experimental object lessons! Their hearty singing of the Hungarian translations of American gospel songs and their beaming faces make these gatherings blessed ones in my experience. The children's choir is now almost completed. I am getting them ready to take part in a church conference, which will be held shortly in the Council Chamber of the City Hall here.

Christian Martyrs in Soviet Russia

By A. Bielomorsky (Translated from Russian) (*Continued*)

FOOD parcels are sorely needed by all the prisoners. It is almost impossible for the Soviet exile to live on the rations given, to say nothing of preserving his health. Parcels, as well as letters, must pass the Soviet censorship. All parcels are very strictly examined by a method that could be invented only by the Bolsheviks. Those prisoners who have been fined for some trespass are deprived of receiving any parcels—only obedient and zealous workers are permitted to receive them.

While the parcels are on the way, they are carelessly handled. Only in rare cases do they come through safely. Usually, the post office is responsible for the parcels, but this rule is not obligatory for the Soviets, particularly where prisoners are concerned. Very often the food parcels had been kept a long time so that the food was decayed, while the remnants had been eaten by rats in the storerooms. It sometimes happened that the prisoner received only an empty box, and with it the abuses of the Soviet office clerks. Perishable food frequently had to be cast out, because the parcels had been on the way for several months. Then, too, the camp administration used parcels for their own benefit. Soviet clerks surrounded the parcels as jackals surround their prey.

In spite of all this, some of the parcels reached the prisoners. The days when they arrived were feast days and there was great rejoicing, even among those who had none for themselves, for they hoped that some of the food would be shared with them. The prisoners were especially grateful when they received food such as garlic and onions, because these foods prevented them from contracting scurvy, which disease was usually raging in the camp.

Exiles are more badly off than those who are in prison. They are absolutely in the hands of the chief of the camp, who is an agent of the G. P. U. The delivery of the parcels depends altogether on the consideration of this chief. I know of a place about 25 miles above Archangel, on the river Severnaya Dvina, where the chief of the camp prohibited the delivery of any parcels to the many exiles who were living there. The parcels came, but the exiles were not permitted to receive them nor were they notified of their arrival. After the chief had taken out all that he wanted for himself, the rest was sold in the village. The peasants bought the parcels, while the rightful owners were not even given the privilege of buying that which really belonged to them. This continued for a long time, until that particular chief was transferred to another place. Some of the prisoners tried to put in a complaint, but there was no one to whom to present their claim. In some camps, the parcels reached the exiles safely, as the chief did not concern himself about the matter.

The worst place for receiving parcels was Archangel. There were thousands of prisoners, and heaps and heaps of parcels arrived. The big storerooms were full of them. When the turn of a prisoner finally came to receive his parcel, he was often disappointed to find that the food was decayed. Only a very few had the good fortune to receive their food parcels safely. Some chiefs were so cruel that it gave them pleasure not only to witness but also to increase the suffering of their unhappy wards. These chiefs permitted the prisoners to become hopelessly ill, or even to die, from starvation.

Method of Trial and Personnel of Investigators

Most of the Soviet investigators come from the "intelligentsia" of the Soviet school, among them being even a few old people. The new Soviet officials are, for the most part, incredibly rough and cruel. The victims of the investigation are scolded and meanly ridiculed, every means being used to wring out a confession from the victim. Sometimes, however, in order to gain the victim's confidence, they are kind in their questioning. The agent of the G. P. U. knows many subtle ways to penetrate the soul of his victim.

There were in our company some prisoners who confessed crimes that they had never committed. The victims wanted to be released from the torment and suffering, and the only way to get relief within

the walls of the G. P. U. was to confess. These tormented people signed any kind of paper in order to remain alive. In this way there were created many outstanding cases, which were broadcast. The suspected ones were not the only ones who suffered greatly, but also those who witnessed in their behalf.

The majority of cases were investigated during the night. Suddenly, the door of the cell was opened and the prisoner was ordered to dress quickly and be ready to follow the warden. The prisoner jumped from his cot, in terror of immediate execution, and did as he was told. Sometimes the unhappy prisoner is awakened and led before the investigator several times in the course of the same night.

I am a Christian and have faith in God, but I tremble with fear as I recall those gloomy underground corridors and single cells, which were full of vermin. The rooms where the investigations take place are painted blood red, and the victim is filled with horror. To add to this, the beastlike Soviet investigators ask numberless questions, which make the victim's head swell. You are asked all the details of your life, from the first day you appeared in the world, and even earlier. The victim is confused and entangled. Under these conditions, he must answer questions and questions in the rooms of several investigators.

The victim is often kept in prison for three or four months, awaiting his trial. He finally arrives at a condition where he willingly awaits the final decision of the G. P. U. He becomes indifferent as to what becomes of him, whether he will be sentenced to five or ten years or even be executed. His only desire is to get away from the atmosphere of the investigators. When, after seven months of imprisonment, I was led with others to the railway station to be exiled to Archangel district, I was almost jumping with joy at the sight of living people walking to and fro on the street. It was fascinating to me to see houses with lighted windows. How I enjoyed that fresh, frosty, pure air! I was walking under escort, but my soul was happy and had a sense of freedom. There was life around me—I felt as though I had come into another world. We were so happy to be out of prison that the thought of the real suffering awaiting us in exile did not enter our minds. We were living in that moment only, and we were happy.

In Soviet Russia there is a code of laws which states that the investigation must be ended within two months and that the continuation of the investigation can be permitted only by the chief prosecutor. The law, however, is one thing and actual practice is another. Sometimes cases are continued for years, the victims being in torment in prison all that time, fearing an awful future.

Under the Heavy Hand of the Stranger

A true history of Bolshevism cannot omit the question of the national dissension among the chief leaders of the communistic revolution and that of the diabolic forces of atheism. I will tell here what I know personally concerning the nationality of the agents of the G. P. U. This cannot be learned through the Soviet press, nor can it be found in the mass of literature written by many authors and workers of the Bolshevistic party, nor in the writings of those who sympathize with the Bolsheviks. In most cases, one meets with pure Russian names, but when you meet the agents personally, you clearly see that the Russian names are assumed by non-Russian people. I give this as a bare fact, for there are many people in Christian circles who are interested, having in view Russia as a whole and ascribing to her, according to the many existing Biblical interpretations, a special "Russian" role in line with the fulfilment of prophecy concerning the last days of this dispensation.

As a Christian, I earnestly stand for the ideals of unity and equality of all nations on the ground of the gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ. There have been many sad troubles because of national egotism and antagonism. Christians must stand on a neutral, spiritual ground. I do not believe, however, in the teaching of "brotherhood and equality" by which politicians have paved their way in blood to the seat of oppressors.

I had much to do with Soviet authorities along the line of religious belief, meeting sometimes with Russians and sometimes with people of other nationalities. In Christian fairness, I must admit that Russian Bolshevists are very rough, but it is also a fact that they are not so evil as those from other nationalities with whom I came in contact. In Moscow there is a man named Tuchkov, who

is chairman of the district commission of the G. P. U. He bears a pure Russian name, but he is really an apostate from the Jews, one who would be denied by every true Israelite. Tuchkov is a highly educated man. When you stand before him for trial, your hair stands on end and you tremble in his presence. He is a skilful questioner, piercing his fiery darts into your very heart, and of course you are robbed of all sense of peace. A certain minister of the gospel told me about his own personal experience with Tuchkov. The fear of meeting him utterly exhausted him. Tuchkov, a son of hell, with his malice defiles everything that a Christian esteems as pure and holy. I myself have dealt with this type of Bolsheviks, and I know how their satanic glances withered me, even though I was always conscious of God's power, which is able to triumph over evil.

How great is the hatred of the Bolsheviks toward Christian civilization, you can conclude from some remarks made to me by Ivanov, one of the chief Bolsheviks. He said that it was necessary to shoot all believers without any consideration, and at the same time he asserted that it would be better for the Bolsheviks if Christians would fight against communism with arms rather than with the gospel. I replied, "You have cannon, guns, and revolvers—it would be an easy thing for you to destroy us." He said, ironically, "The fighting cow is not given a horn by God." I ended this conversation by remarking that if God did not permit it, even the Bolsheviks could do nothing against the believers.

The most prominent enemies of religion among the Russians were Leo Trotzky, Dzerjinsky, and Lenin. Of course, there were many other noted enemies of the faith. Of these three, Lenin was the only Russian, and he was inclined toward a little religious tolerance. Under his influence, there were in the first Soviet constitution some parts of the code which permitted religion. Lenin compromised, however, for diplomatic reasons, for at that time the Bolshevistic government was very weak. The Soviet constitution tolerated religion on paper, but, in practice, written laws were ignored and religion was mercilessly banished. Dzerjinsky was specially bloodthirsty with regard to religious people. In 1921, by order of this man, the whole conference of evangelical youth in Tver was arrested. Trotzky, the first merciless military leader of the Bolsheviks, suggested that the sign be hung on the Kremlin wall in Moscow—"Religion is opium for the people."

In the ranks of the godless, there are a number of people who are purely Russian, but they are not so aggressive in the matter of the destruction of religion as the Bolsheviks of other nationalities. I once met a Russian atheist named Shibov. He was godless, but I felt that down in the depths of this man's soul he was not completely antagonistic to God. True, he spoke against God, but one felt that he was led to do this by some outside influence. As a rule, non-Russian godless Bolsheviks showed special aggressiveness, unlimited pride, insolence, and self-exaltation. I am convinced that this present atheism in Russia is not of Russian origin. A noted communistic worker said to me, "We do not know who is really controlling and directing the communists. Our business is only to carry out the instructions of the party, but these instructions are worked out, not by the party collectively but by someone who does it for the party, the party being obliged to accept any order without any discussion. And so we are led by some mysterious, forceful hand, and we don't know whose hand it is."

The leadership of the Russian people is now in the hands of the adversaries of everything Russian. Otherwise, such merciless destruction of crowds of Russian people would be impossible, many of whom are not even guilty from the standpoint of communism. The Russian nation is being destroyed, with no apparent cause. This is my thought on the question in general.

However, the political and economical changes which are being made by Bolsheviks in Russia are not the worst things that are happening. We Christians do not concern ourselves much about these, but we are desperately concerned over the fact that non-Russian enemies of our God are putting into action all their efforts to completely destroy the religious soul of Russia.

As a believer, I look at things from a spiritual standpoint and I am compelled to admit that the Russian Revolution was *permitted* by God because of some historical mistakes made by this great country. Through sorrow, God is visiting our people. The Lord has permitted Russia's enemies to triumph over her for a time. There is perhaps some similarity between our nation and that of the Jew-

ish people, though the natures of the two nations are quite different. The Jews have always suffered because of their turning away from God, and the sins of the Russian people, or, more correctly, of a portion of the "intelligentsia," have seemed to be a cause of the present slavery of the country. The historical mistake of the Russian "intelligentsia" lies in their adherence to Western radicalism. The fact is that liberal Russian "intelligentsia," before the Revolution, went astray from their religion.

The terrors of the Revolution can be considered as a result of the invasion of Russia by the worst elements in other nationalities. This immediate explanation is correct, but only to some extent. The root of the question is why, after all, Russia, a nation of deep intellectuality, of great talents, recognized by the world, a country of such enormous territory, with a population of 160,000,000 people—why this nation did not resist the wild hordes of iniquity of every description. As to why the country was flooded with tears and blood and shame, I have only one answer—the people were not as consciously close to God as they should have been; there was not enough place for true Christianity, proceeding not from other countries, which have their own weak points, but from the original source, the gospel of Jesus Christ. The same calamity and despair that Russia has undergone certainly threaten all those other nations which are inclined to depart from the pure Christian principles that are outlined in the gospel.

It is hard for me, a Russian Christian, to thus judge my beloved native country, which has been so dear to me from the days of my youth, but I face this painful problem in order to analyze the causes and consequences of the Russian tragedy. All sufferings will pass, however, and the Lord will have mercy upon Russia. He will breathe new life into the country and the crucified, resurrected Christ will triumph. Christ-loving Russia will return, repentant and cleansed, to the truth, the ruined homes will be restored, and the Lord will save our people.

NOTE: This material was written especially for Mr. Dobrinin's Russian magazine, *Vernost* (Faithfulness), but he has kindly given us an English translation for use in the EUROPEAN HARVEST FIELD. It is printed here for the first time in English.

GROUP IN ESTHONIA

Mr. Moriakoff second from left; Mrs. Moriakoff and mother in center; others are newly converted.

ON RUSSIA'S BORDER

By Ivan Moriakoff

(Translated from Russian)

THANKING you deeply for the support I have from you for carrying on my gospel ministry in Esthonia, on the border of Russia, I wish to let you know something about the progress of my work. I have been holding regular meetings, in which many people have heard the gospel message. Of course, they are not all alike—some are attended with unusual spiritual success, and others are not. Our good Brother Mosherenok comes here from Reval and is a great help to me in my ministry.

There are now twelve villages round about me where we have believers and seekers after the truth. Hitherto, these villages were not evangelized.

A new law has been issued in Esthonia, by which the state regulates the activity of the church. A rule has been established by the Esthonian government, compelling church members to pay for their church membership. The ministers of the church are somewhat under the control of the state, so we evangelicals now face the observance of some formalities.

A few days ago, I was conversing with some Russians in the post-office and they demanded that I explain just what we believe. Many people were listening, as I testified for the Lord, and even the postmaster was interested in our conversation. The Lord stood by me and gave me success.

In order to get people into our meetings, I must, in some cases, help the peasants with their work at home, and I do this gladly. This enables them to have more time to meet for worship. Many fervent prayers go up to God in our meetings. Last month I held meetings in seven different villages. Most of them were very orderly, though there were disturbances in some. Some of the new converts have to be strengthened, as they are not yet strong enough to stand against the temptations of the world. A backslider recently repented in tears, and we won a brother. We have meetings for children, also, whom we instruct in gospel teaching. This work is joyous and fruitful.

The Orthodox people blame us for our activity, but we are quietly continuing in it. The people in general seem very thankful to us, and we are being invited to their villages. Some frontier guards were in our meetings, and also some of the "intelligentsia," who expressed surprise at my knowledge of the Bible, since I am only a peasant. Some converts are asking us to baptize them. We are endeavoring to be good servants and wise fishermen. Pray for us. We pray for you and thank our God for your spiritual interest in the Russian people.

WITNESSING TO ISRAEL

By J. I. Schnapp

(Roumania)

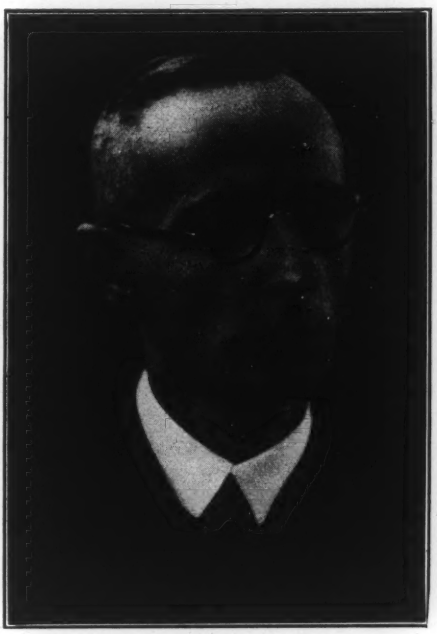
MY WORKING district, the city of Cernauti and nearby Roumanian towns, has a population of about 150,000 souls, who need to hear the gospel proclaimed. I am praying continually that the Lord may give me strength to proclaim to them salvation in Christ, that they may be enabled to hear these words of comfort. I beg of you, brethren and sisters, to uphold me in prayer.

I am in need of 1,000 New Testaments in each of the three languages—German, Hebrew, and Yiddish—so that the precious Word of God, unknown to the greater part of the Jews, might be distributed among them. Although a small number is being sent to me, from time to time, they are not enough to reach more than a small part of those who are eager to get them. I also need to have some German tracts printed. Our mission has a small supply of literature, but it is not sufficient. Pray with me that the Lord may send the means, so that the Jews here, who are living without comfort and hope, might receive the gospel and find the truth in Jesus.

During the past few months, in addition to the large meetings held in Cernauti, I have visited some other cities, about which I will tell you briefly.

In Waskanti, a great number of students were waiting for me and I had a well-attended meeting. Many Jews, as well as others, heard the gospel proclaimed.

In Sadagorsi, a circle of orthodox Jews (Chasidim) listened with intense interest to my lecture, in which I proved through the Old Testament that Christ is the Messiah. These orthodox Jews were not able to refute any point. They were eager to read the Hebrew New Testament and tracts, and I gave them all I had on hand.



J. I. SCHNAPP

I had been invited to Nowasielitza by a large number of Jewish mechanics. They and their companions met with me in a large workshop, where they listened very attentively to the story of redemption. They invited me to come again.

On the occasion of my second visit to Radanti, a great terror took hold of the rabbi and he sent a word of warning to all the Jewish associations, telling them that they must not permit their young people to listen to a Christian missionary. But our Lord is a God at hand, and He worked in the hearts of these Jewish people, who had been forbidden to come. A great number of Jews and Jewesses came to the meeting and listened attentively to the Word and showed an eagerness to read the tracts. My friend, a judge in a higher court there, helped me. He wrote to me a few days later, saying that the message concerning their Messiah was like a bright beacon light to those Jewish young folks, who had previously been living in a fog. They were provoked with their rabbi and wanted to know why they had been kept in the dark, and why their teachers had not told them the truth concerning Christ, even trying to hinder their hearing it through the missionary.

On Christmas eve, I had a little social affair for the Jews in Cernauti. Many were present, and we served tea and cake. I explained to them the meaning of Christmas and how Christ was born for us all. Brother Hill, of Siret, has been here to visit me, and he has given strong messages to the Jews. Please pray that our Lord may have mercy on this unhappy nation and that He may remove the scales from their eyes.

AN EFFECTUAL DOOR—SHALL WE ENTER?

By TORDIS CHRISTOFFERSEN

(Poland)

"BEHOLD, I bring you good tidings of great joy." We celebrated Christmas with the children on Saturday, December 22, in the church, here in Warsaw, of which I am a member. The days previous had been full of prayer—and preparation, as well—prayer that God would use this evening toward the evangelization of the Jews, in drawing many and in bringing light and joy to those who have all their lives been sitting in darkness and sorrow.

Truly, God answered our prayers, for more than 350 came to hear the songs of joy which our children sang with all their hearts, and to listen to the old story of love and grace, which brings salvation. The children had learned all the promises from Genesis 3:15 that related to the Coming One, the One of whom Moses and the prophets spake. As they quoted the verses, we gave them a light, indicating that all the lights of the Old Testament were pointing to the Light of the world, the Lord Jesus Christ. When about fifty of the children stood there with lighted candles, singing "Holy Night," it was indeed a witness to the true Light.

When we pray, God works, and now, with the growth of the work, the wonderful opening that God has granted us, we are in need of a larger mission. We can no more take them in, far less do justice to those who come. You all know that one cannot teach properly as many as 80 or 90 in one room. Before Christmas, we had as many as 125, sitting two on every chair and standing and sitting on the floor. We are training and preparing all our workers to teach, and we could do a fair piece of work if we had the rooms we need.

May God lay it upon the hearts of all of you to pray through for this need. Pray that God will undertake for us, so that we may be enabled to utilize every opportunity presented to us, and they are many—among fallen women, servant girls, business girls, and ladies of the upper class, with some of whom God has brought us in touch. But we are handicapped—no rooms in which to do the work we should do. Pray that the Lord will raise up a person or a group who would count it a real privilege to share with us in this great work of bringing the "glad tidings of great joy" to the neglected, suffering Jews of Warsaw, by giving an additional sum to rent a proper place. God is blessing and working among us—it pays to pray—therefore, continue steadfast.

WORD FROM MR. KENNEDY

MR. AND Mrs. Jacques are now living in Elbasan, a city to the north of us. He writes us that he may be a student at the Albanian Normal School, which is located in Elbasan, in order to make progress in the study of the language.

Our Albanian preacher is pushing on and we are trying to support him from such receipts as are coming in, but the situation needs some one to take over his support. May we not keep this prayerfully in mind? Do you not have churches or friends who sometimes offer to render Christ's cause such a service?

Our work here is going on regularly. Last Sunday I preached on the prophet Daniel. His example and wonderfully awakening message led us, too, to desire to try to bring others to Christ and shine as the stars.

We are still prayerfully waiting for some favorable message from the government as a result of our going to Tirana, the capital, to interview the minister, but as yet no word has come. Hon. Post Wheeler, who was my classmate at Princeton University and who was our American minister here, has left Albania, having been retired from government service on a pension.

Mrs. Kennedy joins me in cordial, prayerful greetings. We are having extra busy days. Today our Young People's Society of Christian Endeavor meets for a social and business meeting to elect officers.

PREACHING IN SIGHT OF RUSSIA

By Nikita Mosherenok

MY DEAR American Christian friends, I am deeply thankful to God and to you for your sacrificial help in my evangelistic work among Russians in Esthonia, on the border of Russia. I have just returned from Izborsky district, where I was helping in meetings with our good Brother Moriakoff. I preached in several villages and served at the Lord's Table, when we commemorated the death of our Saviour. While preaching in the villages there, we could see Russia all the time, as we were right on the frontier.

The Esthonian peasant population is rather noisy at holiday time, for there are many drunkards, but the Lord gave us quiet meetings. Sometimes drunkards came into our meetings, but one at least did not disturb us, for he came in and slept. There are certainly many good people there, also, and many who are hungry for the things of God. We had good conversations with a number of these.

I preached also in Reval, the capital of Esthonia, a city which formerly belonged to Russia. It is not a large city, but a very ancient one. The walls of the fortress there are about seven centuries old.

Some time ago, I again visited the Russian evangelical brethren in Finland. The voyage over the sea, from Reval to Helsingfors, is not so easy at this season. There are many storms, but the Lord keeps me. In Finland, I had good, brotherly fellowship and we were happy to be together again. I gave messages from the Word, but our joy was especially great when we communed at the Table of the Lord, in memory of His death for us sinners.

I greet all of you very heartily and pray for you with a grateful heart, because of your love for me in my service for the Lord.

Humility

Some years ago I saw what is called a sensitive plant. I happened to breathe on it, and suddenly it drooped its head; I touched it, and it withered away. Humility is as sensitive as that; it cannot safely be brought out on exhibition. A man who is flattering himself that he is humble and is walking close to the Master, is self-deceived. It consists not in thinking of ourselves, but in not thinking of ourselves at all. Moses wist not that his face shone. If humility speaks of itself, it is gone.

Receipts For [illegible]

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